

(1)

MERCVRIVS HIBERNICVS,
OR,
The *frish* Mercurie.

Briefely and truly relating the Conditions, Manners, and
 Customes of the Natives, with their most barbarous,
 inhumane, cruell, and bloudie Stratagems.

Who are chiefly animated and spurred on by the *Iesuites*,
Priests, Friers and Monks of the Antichristian,
Popish, and Hellish Brood.

With a true Relation of the unchristian Practises per-
 formed by the Lord *Macquier* and *Macmahone*, with the
 Arraignment and Sentence of the said
 Lord *Macquier*.



BY your leave, and lye further, you
 Bweekely Mercurians, for I am not of
 your straine, but I am a Mercurie that with
 head and heeles comes flying, not lying,
 Newes, either from Spaine, France, Den-
 marke, Holland, Scotland, Wales, London,
 or Oxford. I tooke wing in Ireland, and
 so flew over Sea, and lighted in England,
 but how I shall be entertained here, I
 know not; with my Message: yet the
 Printer hath seized on me, and now newly
 pressed me for yont service: and therefore I will breake open my Packet of
 Papers; and in brieftearmes thus I salute you.

Gentle Reader, I doe here present to your view a brieft
 description of the Kingdome of *Ireland*; wherein is decla-
 red the fertilitie of the Soyle, the nature, disposition, and
 beattly behaviour of those bloudie, barbarous, and more then in-
 humane people, whose inordinate lives doth sitter appertaine unto

A

Insidels

(2)
Infidels and Heathens, then for those which in any respect professe the Name of Christ; for what Christians they are, let every religious and godly man judge.

And who are the maine inducers of their execrable actions and bloody treacheries, but Jesuites, Seminaries, Massing Priests and Fryers, as you may perceive in this ensuing discourse?

But that which is to be most admired at, is the heathenish, bloody, monstrous & savage condition of the *Irish*, whose Country is scituated under so temperate a climate, that is neither oppressed with extremity of cold in the Winter, nor with too much heat in the Summer, that is inuironed with *England, Scotland, France, and Spaine*, and hath had continuall entercourse, trade and traffick with those Nations, yet these People should yet remaine (as it doth) more like brute Beasts then men, being Christians, (as they call themselves) Their Pedegree they derive from one *Mack Swine*, a barbarous off spring, as may be seene by their hoggish condition: they feare not God, nor obey any good lawes: they are strong Papists and their onely delight is to kill, burne, and massacre all the Protestants, both men, women and children: blood and mischief is the game wherein they most delight, for when that religious, true and honest men are at rest, these Rebels (or Woodkarnes) doe burn and spoyle all by night; they leave not any kind of thing behind that may be conueied away, as horses, cowes, linnen, woollen, money, plate, pewee, brasse &c. the rest they set on fire: now when they come to their Rendezvous, some Cowes they knock down, and the chieft of the Rebels have the best of the meate, the others take the Liver, Guts and Intrailes, (never washing them) & lay them on the coles to broyle so they eat them halfe raw for their choppes will be all bloody and they beginne with the greene oyntment which come out of the puddings, being foulely polluted: Some boyle their meate in the Beasts skin with the haire on driving stakes into the ground, placing the hide thereon, and so putting in water, they make a fire vnder the same: others they roast, (after their beastly fashion) and every one is his owne Cooke, and rag and rag are all fellowes. The ground is their Table, and their Cushions are Straw or Rushes, and for Napkins Tablecloaths or Trenchers they take little care for, and their chieft Dishes are of Wood, which they place most vndercently on their green-grasse Carpet or Table-cloth. Then before the Lord doth

He sit down either with his Wife or Concubine (it is no matter whether, for he will change them when he please, and take others) he intreateth the Frier to sit downe first, (who is for his Soule,) and then next to him placeth his Chirurgion (who is for his Body,) and then he and his Miltresse taketh their roomes: But before they sit downe the Frier blesseth the Rebelle and his beloved, with all the Rogues in the Place: then they pull out long stabbers in stead of knives, and with them they slash out such pretty morcells as would make a man loath to see the blood run about their nasty choppes; bread they eate seldom and their drinke is either Milke or Broth of their meate (which the Chirurgion sweares is very good Physick,) if the Broth be scant, faire water is at hand: then to their *Vscabough* or *Aquavita*-botell, if they can get it, and their snuffe Tobacco.

Now when they have filled their panches, then begins their pastime; for up starts a *Bard* and a *Harper*, and they begin the melodie, (the *Bard* is a Rimer or Singer,) and then he begins to sing of all the bloody Battels, and Conquests that their Ancestors and fore-Fathers have done; which spurrerh on the Rebels more eagerly to follow their Fathers steps, (as ill Rootes beare bad Fruits,) & more to augment the flame & rancour of their hearts the Fryer he begins with his hellish counsell; he perswades the Rebels that it is an high worke of merit, charitie, and a godly deed to spoyle, kill, mallacre and burne all the Protestants and others which are loyall Subjects, that will not submit to the Idolatrous Superstition of their Antichristian Father the Pope, and he promiserh them that he hath Pardons for them all from his holynesse, and that they for the same shal be free for ever from the fry flames of Purgatory (this is a Ghostly Fryer, and as innocent as *Judas*) when he hath ended his learned & charitable *Oration* then he blesseth (or crossest) the wicked rable) & biddeth them go on in their bloody stratagemes (oh Gods name,) then on they march in multitudes, resolving by their valour and their Popish fathers blessing to get the victory. They commonly march by three and three in ranks, bragging and making a great shew, but when they come neare our Armies then they leave their warlike array and cling together in heape, supposing it to be the most secure; then with a hideous and howling cry, they make a Hubbub, vowing to be the death and

A 2 confusion

(2)

Infidels and Heathens, then for those which in any respect professe the Name of Christ; for what Christians they are, let every religious and godly man judge.

And who are the maine inducers of their execrable actions and bloody treacheries, but Jesuites, Seminaries, Massing Priests and Fryers, as you may perceive in this ensuing discourse?

But that which is to be most admired at, is the heathenish, bloody, monstrous & savage condition of the *Irish*, whose Country is scituated under so temperate a climate, that is neither oppressed with extremity of cold in the Winter, nor with too much heat in the Summer, that is inuironed with *England, Scotland, France, and Spaine*, and hath had continuall entercourse, trade and traffick with those Nations, yet these People should yet remaine (as it doth) more like brute Beasts then men, being Christians, (as they call themselves) Their Pedigree they derive from one *Mack Swine*, a barbarous offspring, as may be seene by their hoggish condition: they feare not God, nor obey any good lawes: they are strong Papists, and their onely delight is to kill, burne, and massacre all the Protestants, both men, women and children, blood and mischief is the game wherein they most delight, for when that religious, true and honest men are at rest, these Rebels (or *Woodkarnes*) doe burn and spoyle all by night; they leave not any kind of thing behind that may be conueied away, as horses, cowes, linnen, woollen, money, plate, pewter, brasse &c. the rest they set on fire: now when they come to their Rendezvous, some Cowes they knock down, and the chieft of the Rebels have the best of the meate, the others take the Liver, Guts and Intrailes, (never washing them) & lay them on the coles to broile, so they eat them halfe raw for their choppes will be all bloody and stinky beset with the greene oyntment which come out of the packings, being foulely polluted: Some boyle their meate in the Beasts skin with the haire on, driving stakes into the ground, placing the hide thereon, and so putting in water, they make a fire vnder the same: others they roast, (after their beastly fashion) and every one is his owne Cooke, and rag and rag are all fellowes. The ground is their Table, and their Cushions are Straw or Rushes, and for Napkins Tablecloaths or Trenchers they take little care for, and their chieft Dishes are of Wood, which they place most vndecently on their green-grasse Carpet or Table-cloth. Then before the Lord doth

(32)
He then sit down either with his Wife or Concubine (it is no matter whether, for he will change them when he please, and take others) he intreateth the Frier to sit downe first, (who is for his Soule,) and then next to him placeth his Chirurgion (who is for his Body,) and then he and his Miltresse taketh their roomes: But before they sit downe the Frier blesseth the Rebelle and his beloved, with all the Rogues in the Place: then they pull out long stabbers in stead of knives, and with them they slash out such pretty morcells as would make a man loath to see the blood run about their nasty choppes; bread they eate seldom, and their drinke is either Milke or Broth of their meate (which the Chirurgion sweares is very good Physick,) if the Broth be scant, faire water is at hand: then to their *Vscabough* or Aquavita-bottell, if they can get it, and their snuffe Tobacco.

Now when they have filled their panches, then begins their pastime; for up starts a *Bard* and a *Harper*, and they begin the melodie, (the *Bard* is a Rimer or Singer,) and then he begins to sing of all the bloody Battels, and Conquestts that their Ancestors and fore-Fathers have done; which spurreth on the Rebells more eagerly to follow their Fathers steps, (as ill Rootes beare bad Fruits,) & more to augment the flame & rancour of their hearts the Fryer he begins with his hellish counsell; he perswades the Rebells that it is an high worke of merit, charitie, and a godly deed to spoyle, kill, massacre and burne all the Protestants and others which are loyall Subjects, that will not submit to the Idolatrous Superstition of their Antichristian Father the Pope, and he promisseth them that he hath Pardons for them all from his holynesse, and that they for the same shalbe free for ever from the fiery flames of Purgatory (this is a Ghostly Fryer, and as innocent as *Judas*) when he hath ended his learned & charitable *Oration* then he blesseth (or crosseth the wicked rabble) & biddeth them go on in their bloody stratagemes (on Gods name,) then on they march in multitudes, resolving by their valour and their Popish fathers blessing to get the victory.

They commonly march by threes and threes in ranks, bragging and making a great shew, but when they come neare our Armies then they leave their warlike array and cling together in heape, supposing it to be the most secure; then with a hideous and howling cry, they make a Hubbub, vowing to be the death and

(4)
confusion of all the Protestant Heretikes (as they doe call us) that
breatheth: a great paire of bagpipes serveth for their Trumpet
and Drum.

But when they have tryed the valour of our forces, the terrour
of our shot, and the sharpness of our swords, their hearts begin to
faine; yet for a while they will stand stiffly unto it: but when they
find the skirmish too hot (for all their great boasts) their bagpipes
soundeth a retreat, and the popish-Friar laments and mourns for
the slaughter of his poor Wood-kerns, cursing as black as pitch
their oppressors; and then after their death he purchaseth their p-
r-dons, Beal Book, & Candle with him is in great request. Now their
hearts and valour faint, & grow very cold, and they are more wi-
ling to fly then to fight: the reason is. they will not take blowes if
they can saue them, for their light heels are far better then their
hands: for the remnant of those which are left unslain, doth either
fly to the woods or bogs (in their own countrey) for their more
safety & shelter: Their behaviour is rude, their clothing nasty, and
their breeding in all points suitable to the rest.

Yet is the countrey plentifully stored with flowing streams,
goodly havens, and pleasant rivers in most parts of the land being
famous for merchandise and trade; and by reason of the plenty of
waters, there is abundance of all sorts of fish and fowle; as also abun-
dant of all sorts of cattle necessary for the sustenance of man, onely
they are troubled with some Wolves, according to the condition
of the natives, who are more brutish then Beasts, having neither
grace, nor the feare of God before their eyes, being wholly given
to sensuality and lust: There is of woods plenty, Sea-coale, and Al-
lom: some mines of gold and silver: and in sundry places Pearles
are found: It produceth many Planets, and herbs necessary for the
health of man.

The people are much given to sorcery, witch-craft, and
superstition: *Bony-clabber* is a dainty dish with them,
which is milke boyled to curdles in a vessel that hath ever
scapt a scowring: and as for their butter (which those
clearely Huswives make) it is of as many colours as the
Rain-bow, and that is either stayned through their dirty
smocks (which they seldom wash in a twelve moneth, or)
through

through straw or rushes, whereon their Dogs, Hogs, Pigs, and Cattle all lye together in one room: Their Cheefe is made after the like cleanly fashion, with Goats, Cows and Sheeps milke in a medly, which is then laid to dry in the smoke, til it looketh like rusty Bacon, and is so ranke that few but of their owne Nation can digest it: the bread they most usuall make is of Oatemeale, which is in Cakes either round or triangular, which they cal banages and straudaghes. I told you before that they had a great store of foule and beasts, for so they have, for there is foule Dishes, foule Vessels, foule Houses, foule Linni, and foule Sowes; but the beasts are generall smal, the Women excepted.

If I should relate what affiance they have of their ridiculous *Saint Patricks* purgatory, of the holy Crosse, and divers other places of pilgrimage which are in divers places frequented by them, I should deliver my strange topperie, not onely of the blind zeale, (and sometimes of the uncivil demeanure of the pilgrims themselves) by which they created, cosened and deceive by their Ghostly Fathers, that for their owne lucre and gaine doth delude them with strange Voices, Visions and Devises, more fitter to be laughed at then to be beleaved.

It were as strange to deliver the manner which they vse in the buriall of the dead; and he that were but at Dublin it selfe, (which is the chiefeest City) and should see a dead Corpes brought to the Grave, would say, that there could not be a more Heathenish demeanour, no not among a People that had neither knowne or heard of GOD.

For the blessing which it hath pleased GOD to vouchsafe to that Country in purging it from al sorts of venomous beasts & wormes, this benifit they ascribe only to their *S^t. Patrick*, & wil in no wise acknowledge it be the blessing of God; for it is certain, that no toads, frog, snake, adder, spider or the like wil live there.

I could here relate more of their Irish customes, which is strange to be delivered; as of their *Brehon Law*, and their Lawes *Tamestry*, and of their Lord and Captaine called *Tamest*, chosen for divers considerations, & how amongst them every great Man's Will and Commandement is a Law (especially amongst their own Tenants: For *Ireland* hath evermore strived to run into all lawlesse and irregular courses, whereby they are growne into such a habit of savage tyranny that nothing is more pleasing to the greatest number of them then Civill Warres, murders and massacres, whereunto they are commonly inclin'd; so there wants not those amongst them to prick them forward, and to stirre them up to treason and murder, that are still conspiring, still prating, and still endeavoring to draw them into that mortall plague of Rebellion, which is not to be cured but by the Sword, by common slaughter and spilling of blood.

And thus we see that the greatest part of the People of that Kingdome hath bin from time to time thus drawne & stirred up by those seducing vipers, & Firebrands of Hell, the bloody Jesuites & Priests of the Antichristian Church of *Rome*, the fruite of whose willfull obedience is to exempt themselves both from the Lawes of God and Man, inasmuch that if any Prince begin to punish their disobedience, they either depose him or cause him to be murdered or poisoned, and then they curse him immediately to the bottomlesse pit of Hell. They teach them to fly from Christ, and to worship Saints, who as the Papists themselves suppose, are most cruell and mercilesse tyrants, who will wreake their revenge if their Evens be not salted on, their Images visited, saluted & worshipped with a Paternoster, with a Candle, with Incense or Offerings. They terrifie and fray them with their painefull Purgatory, the scorching heat whereof is such, that it hath not onely consumed infinite treasure both of Gold and Silver, out of ignorant mens purses, but it hath likewise melted castles, Mannours, buildings, Lands and Tenements innumerable, to the profit of Monkes, Friers, Nuns, and Priests, who have made many great and Rich men to rob their Heires, to give perpetuities to these Hypocrites to buy perpetual prayer for them after death; for they never appoint any time of deliverance, fearing that the lands should returne back againe to the right Heires.

Thus god hath one charity and love of the Pope and his damned crew, to them that give them much, they love much, and to them

them that give little, them they love a little. but to them that give them nought, they love nought; so that all their love is belly love, all their prayer belly prayer, all their brother-hood, belly brother-hood, and for those that will not pamper them, there is no love, no prayer, no brother-hood, no kindred, nor knowledge.

Now if God were their Father, then would they love Christ his Son, and seek to set forth his glory, who bleseth us, not curseth us; and if they were of the sheep-fold of God, then would they heare his voice; but they are of their Father the Devil, and the lusts of their Father they will doe, they are in name the servants of Christ, but in their acts they shew themselves to be the members of Antichrist; they change peace into war, they turne judgement into gall, and the fruit of righteousness into worm-wood: they resist the truth of God, to establish the deviles and doctrine of men, they pretend shew of holiness, through the which they draw to themselves credit, they have only a painted visard, and carry an empty name of the Church: What is their wilful chastity, but an obedience condemned in the Scripture, to give God that which hee hath not given us. and so to make sin where there was none at all? the fruits whereof, is daily corrupting of other mens wives, and to live in open and common whordome, with other abominations filthy to be spoken of. Thus in briebe have I related some of the divilish practises of the Pope, & his bloody instruments, who in multitudes flock over daily into this kingdom of England, to eclipse the light of the sacred Gospel: But I hope that God wil give us his holy Spirit, that we may discern the truth from falshood: And when his will and pleasure is, he will in his good time open the eyes and hearts of these blind Hereticks.

The bloody Life, Cruell practices, and treacherous plots of the Lord *Macquire*, that so much noted arch-Irish Rebell, with his arraignment at the Kings bench Bar, and sentence of Death.

Many and evil hath the dayes bin of those poor distressed people, I meane those soul-wounded Protestants in Ireland, caused by the cruelty of those barbarous minded men, Lord *Macquire* and *Macmahone*, those Arch grand Irish Rebels, at whose black deeds the Sun blusht, & the Moon put on a vail of sadness, like black mischiefs

twins they stroue who should exceed others in mischief whose hourly musick were the dying groans of Protestants; their chiefest delights, inuentions of cruelty and daily sights the tortured Soules of those mangled by their cruelty: of which sad miseries the unhappy Province of Vilter, made unhappy by their cruelty did beare a sad part, wherein was slain one hundred and fifty foure thousands, of poore distressed Soules, such was the pittilesse cruelty of these blood-thursty Payre whose sanguin soules knowes no pitty: how many Children haue they buried alive, canniball-like they haue fed upon the flesh, of innocent Protestants, boasting in their cruelty, saying that they neuer faired better then when they suckt the blood of Infants, and fed upon the flesh of Protestants, how many womens wombes haue they ript up, I blush to speake it, making them a troffe for swine to feed on, which after was deuoured by them, here might you see Cityes, Townes, and Castles like a second Troy all on a fire, whilst the Inhabitants persist in the flame, what shall I say more then thousand Soules as their cruelty brought to ruin, and their wickednesse to atimelesse end: such has bin the miseries of our poor brethren of Ireland, under the barbarous usage of those brace of villians: yet not content they thought to seize upon the Castle of Dublin, and to kill and make away the Lords and Councel that were in the same: but God the knower and searcher of all hearts and hater of all treacherous actions discovered their damnable practises, for meeting with one Oneale, a supposed friend of theirs, to him he disclosed their intent, who misliked of the same revealed the plot; and being apprehended, and since found guilty, they were by the wisdoms of Iudges sent to the Parliament of England: for which Kingdoms Crown they formerly had cast dice for, before whom their bloody actions being discovered, and found guilty: the one Macmahon, was on the 18. of November 1644. at Tyburne drawne, hanged and quartered. The other because a Peer. desired that he might be iudged by Peers: but not granted, he was on Tuesday the 11. of February brought to the Kings Bench bar: and though he excepted against two severall Iuries, able, honest, and sufficient men: and for all his several crotches he was at last found guilty of high treason and condemned to be hanged, drawn and quartered: a just reward for so unjust a Traytor,

London printed by Iohn Hammond. 1645.

FINIS.